

---

Application No.: 10/044,441Case No.: 57287US002

---

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8 are pending. Claim 7 is canceled. Claims 6 and 8 are amended.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-5 were indicated as allowable. Independent claim 6 was rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Wang et al. (US 6,318,151). Dependent claims 7 and 8 were objected to but were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Independent claim 6 has now been amended to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claim 7. Claim 7 is cancelled and claim 8 is amended to make it depend from independent claim 6. These amendments are believed to be responsive to the Office Actions objections to claims 7 and 8. In view of the foregoing amendments, the §103(a) rejection of claim 6 is believed to be moot.

Applicant has endeavored to respond fully to the issues raised in the Final Office Action and to place the claims of the application in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal. In view of the above, it is submitted that the pending claims are allowable. Allowance of the application is now solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

August 2, 2005  
Date

By   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel R. Pastirik, Reg. No.: 33,025  
Telephone No.: 651-737-2685

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833